

REMARKS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of November 30, 2005.

Reconsideration of the Application is requested.

The Office Action

Claims 1-24 remain in this application.

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 13-14, 16, 18, 20, 21, and 23 are currently being amended.

Claims 1, 8-12, 19, and 21-24 stand rejected over US 6,213,580 to Segerstrom, et al.

Claims 2-7, 13-18, and 20 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but are considered to be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate subject matter of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 and dependent claims 3-12 and 19 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 13, 14, 16, and 20, which were considered to be allowable, have been placed in independent form. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that these claims, and claims 15, 16, and 18 dependent therefrom are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 21 now recites a print engine which includes a print head which ejects ink. A drive system translates the print head in a first axial direction as the print head ejects ink. The drive system is coupled to the print head by a pivotable linkage which allows pivoting between the print head and the drive system. Amendments to claim 21 are supported by paragraph [0035] of the specification.

Segerstrom discloses a method for automatically aligning a print head module in an ink jet printing system. As shown in FIGURE 9, the print head module 12 is aligned by a mounting 150. The mounting does not translate the print head during the ink ejection process. Rather, the mounting is simply an alignment device.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 21, and claims 22 and 23 dependent therefrom, distinguish over the Segerstrom reference.

Claim 23 recites a method of driving a print head during an imaging process. The method includes translating the print head during the imaging process in a first axial direction with a drive system. The drive system includes a flexible coupling which allows

relative pivoting between the print head and the drive system. Ink is ejected from the print head as the print head translates. Amendments to claim 23 are supported by paragraph [0035] of the specification.

Segerstrom does not disclose such a method. The Segerstrom print modules 12 are not translated during an imaging process. Rather, they are aligned with the mounting 150 after test printing.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 23 and 24 are patentable over the Segerstrom reference.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 1-24) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

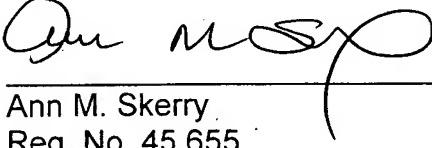
In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call the undersigned, at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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January 3, 2006

Date


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